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steamboat navigation on the Red River. The remaining chapters (7-10) deal with the history of Grand Forks from the date of the erection of the first log cabin in 1868 to 1882.

Since much of the early history of Minnesota is connected with the extension of trade and the inflow of settlers into the Red River district, the book has much of interest for Minnesota readers. It is not, however, free from inaccuracies; for example Jean Nicollet is used for Joseph N. Nicollet (p. 8), and the date August 22 instead of August 17 is given for the beginning of the Sioux outbreak of 1862 (p. 80). Nevertheless the study is distinctly worth while; and it demonstrates some of the possibilities in the field of local history.

WILLOUGHBY M. BABCOCK JR.

Letters of Cyrus Foss Chamberlain, a Member of the Lafayette Flying Corps. (Minneapolis, Francis A. and Frances T. Chamberlain, 1918. For private distribution. 118 p. Illustrations)

On June 13, 1917, Cyrus Foss Chamberlain enlisted in the Foreign Legion of the French army as a candidate for the Lafayette Flying Corps. One year later "he fell to his death in combat, having gallantly given fight to a group of enemy fliers, by whom he was hopelessly out-numbered." His parents have published his letters in order that they might "not only tell the story of the thrilling last year of our son's life, but that they may reflect and interpret the personality that was Cyrus." The date of the first letter is March 31, 1917, when Chamberlain first thought of going to France to fight. The succeeding letters, written principally to his mother and father, but occasionally to a friend or another member of the family, describe his experiences in New York and elsewhere, while trying to decide where to enlist, and his life in the training camps and at the front in France. The last fourteen pages contain letters from friends and official communications relating to his death and burial. The letters are very interestingly written and reflect the author's fine qualities of modesty, straightforwardness, cheerfulness under adverse conditions, and unassuming courage. Historically they are valuable for their vivid portrayal of the entire career from enlistment to

final combat of a *pilote de chasse*. They also furnish interesting glimpses of the activities of several of the well-known members of the Lafayette Escadrille, with whom Chamberlain was thrown into intimate contact.

The compilation may well serve as an example for other parents to follow in thus preserving in printed form the records of their sons' experiences in the World War. The only adverse criticism offered is in regard to the total lack of explanatory notes. For the immediate members and friends of the family for whom the book was intended, these may not have been necessary; but as a record for future generations, even within his own family, a few notes here and there would have cleared up several vague points and made the sequence of Chamberlain's activities better understood.

C. E. GRAVES.

Soldiers of the Legion. Trench etched by LEGIONNAIRE BOWE, who is JOHN BOWE of Canby, Minnesota, and CHARLES L. MACGREGOR, collaborator. (Chicago, Peterson Linotyping Company, 1918. 281 p. Illustrations)

The reader of this book is likely to feel that he has before him a series of vivid and disconnected notes on the war as the foreign legion saw it rather than a book on the subject. Mr. Bowe and his collaborator do not pretend that the book is in finished literary form. Their aim is apparently to put before the public matters of popular interest connected with the foreign legion, and in this they have succeeded. There is much material at the end of the book which has no particular bearing upon its title—the discussions of the heroism of the French women, of the opposing theories of government represented in the conflict, of the enemy's atrocities in Belgium and France. More germane to the subject and fresher in interest are the earlier chapters, which contain notes on the history of the foreign legion, the training and life of the legionnaire, and his experiences at the front. "I have tried to make you see war as I know it," writes the author, "war with no footballs, portable bath-tubs, victrolas, nor Red Triangle huts." It is grim reading, yet enlivened by humorous incidents and anecdotes, many of which have real historical value. Of especial in-